



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

DRON

Application No.: 09/784,970

Filed: February 16, 2001

For: PROCESS FOR MAKING
GRANULATED N-[N-(3,3-
DIMETHYLBUTYL)-L- α -ASPARTYL]-
L-PHENYLALANINE 1-METHYL
ESTER

)
: Examiner: L. Wong

)
: Group Art Unit: 1761

)
:
: November 21, 2002

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TC 1700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

This paper is presented in connection with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above referenced application. A final rejection dated March 26, 2002 was pending in the application. Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on July 23, 2002.

Applicant respectfully requests a two month extension of time to file the RCE and this Preliminary Amendment. Please deduct the \$400.00 extension fee, and any other necessary fees, from Deposit Account 14-1451. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the correct fees to the aforementioned Deposit Account in the event Applicant has incorrectly calculated the necessary fees.

Please amend the application as follows:

Cancel Claims 1-58.

Add new claims 59-91: